

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 17 and 29-36 are currently pending. Applicant cancels herewith Claims 5-13, 16 and 18-28 in an effort to advance the case to allowance.

Rejections under 35 USC §112

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 14, 15, 17 and 29-36 have been rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, as not providing enablement as to compounds other than FK506 or cyclosporin A for treatment of diseases other than stroke, Huntington's disease and Parkinson's disease. Applicant has amended Claims 1 and 14 to recite the specific immunosuppressive compounds FK506, cyclosporin A and rapamycin. FK506 and cyclosporin A were previously deemed enabled by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that one skilled in the art is also well versed in the use of rapamycin as a neurotrophic drug. See, for example, US Patent 6,080,753 (Example 6) and US Patent 5,696,135 (col. 14, lines 56-62), both of which describe the use of rapamycin and provide exemplary dosage amounts. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are fully enabled as to all three compounds and requests withdrawal of this basis of rejection.

Applicant has also amended Claims 1 and 14 to include the specific diseases deemed enabled by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is submitted that this basis of rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 5 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as indefinite for use of the term "biological equivalents". These claims have been cancelled, thus obviating this basis of rejection.

Summary

As all outstanding issues have been addressed, Applicant submits that Claims 1, 2, 4, 14, 15, 17 and 29-36 are in condition for allowance; such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Z. Anderson
Registration No. 44,508
Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
600 Grant Street, 44th Floor
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Attorney for Applicants

412-566-1910